Cheletropis, No. 3.

White, glassy; claws closer and sharper; shell smooth.

Cheletropis, No. 4.

Yellow; smooth, spire elevated. Doubtful if a *Cheletropis*.

On 5th May 1868 (lat. 34° N., long. 39° W.) I obtained a yellowish semitransparent shell, somewhat resembling *Oxygyrus*; spire concealed, strongly marked in a line with the whorls.

On the same day the tow-net brought in a considerable amount of extremely fine crystalline sand, which contained numbers of microscopic shells. Some of these I picked out by means of the lens; they appeared mostly to be discoidal, transparent, and white. I am quite unable to account for this singular and unique occurrence.

During the long passage, I need scarcely say, I found many spiral shells, and many of these minute. These being probably the "fry" of larger sorts, I have not described them. Should at some future day any notice of them be desired, I will endeavour to send you a list and short descriptions of them.

December 10, 1868.

Professor Huxley, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

Mr. Sclater called the attention of the Meeting to the following special additions to the Menagerie since the last Meeting:—

1. A pair of Crowned Hornbills (*Toccus melanoleucus*) from South Africa, purchased November 27th, making nine species of this family of birds now living in the Society's Gardens, namely:—

Buceros bicornis.	*Buceros atratus.*
—— *rhinoceros.*	*Toccus erythrorhynchus.*
—— *pica.*	—— *melanoleucus.*
—— *corrugatus.*	*Bucorvus abyssinicus.*
—— *elatus.*	

2. Two Regent-birds (*Sericulus melinus*) from Australia, purchased December 3rd, making three examples of this fine bird now living in the Gardens. One of the last purchases was in full plumage; the two others in the dress of immaturity.

3. Two Temminck's Snappers (*Macroclemmys temminckii*) from the Mississippi, presented December 5th by Mr. C. Hagenbeck of Hamburg.

Mr. Sclater exhibited, on the part of M. Jules Verreaux, Corr.

Memb., two specimens of *Ampeliceps coronatus* of Blyth (J. A. S. B. vol. xi. pt. 1, p. 195, figured in Gray and Mitchell's Gen. of Birds, pl. 81). Mr. Blyth had originally described this bird from specimens from Tennasserim. The present examples were stated to be from the northern part of Cochin-China, where it inhabits the bushy plains in small flocks of seven or eight individuals. Its habits were stated by M. Verreaux's correspondents to resemble those of the genus *Acridotheres*, its food consisting of locusts, grasshoppers, and other insects, which are often sought for in the vicinity of cattle.

Mr. Sclater also exhibited, and made remarks upon, the skin of a male Kaleege (*Euplocamus cuvieri*) from Arracan, which had been presented to the Society by Mr. John Squire, C.M.Z.S., on September 4th last. The specimen appeared to agree well with Temminck's figure (Pl. Col. i.) of *Lophophorus cuvieri*, and was clearly intermediate between *E. lineatus* and *E. horsfieldi*. Mr. Sclater had been informed that all the Kaleeges from Arracan were of this variety, which, if this were truly the case, might be held to constitute a good geographical species.

Mr. E. Blyth exhibited, and made remarks on, some horns of supposed hybrids between the Chamois (*Rupicapra tragus*) and the Domestic Goat.

The following papers were read:—

1. On the Breeding of Mammals in the Gardens of the Zoological Society of London during the past twenty years. By P. L. Sclater, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Society.

The first Table subjoined gives a list of the different species of Mammals that have bred in the Society's Gardens from the commencement of the year 1848 up to the end of 1867 (that is, during a period of twenty years), and the number of instances in which each species has produced living young during the same period. It has been compiled from the "Occurrences," the Annual Reports of the Council of the Society, and from other documents.

The arrangement followed is that of the fourth edition of the 'List of Vertebrated Animals living in the Gardens of the Zoological Society of London' (1866).

The second Table gives the total number of species that have bred in each order of Mammals, and the number of species of the same order that are enumerated in the list of Vertebrates. By this a better idea may be formed of the comparative frequency of breeding in each order, which is indicated in the third column.

		No. of instances of breeding in each species during the past twenty years.	No. of ditto in each order.
I. Quadrumana.			
1. Rhesus Monkey	*Macacus rhesus*	11	
2. Pig-tailed Monkey	—— *nemestrinus*	1	
3. Macaque Monkey	—— *cynomolgus*	2	
4. Arabian Baboon	*Cynocephalus hamadryas*	2	
5. Vervet Monkey	*Cercopithecus pygerythrus*	6	
6. Capuchin Monkey	*Cebus capucinus*	1	
7. Ring-tailed Lemur	*Lemur catta*	1	
8. White-handed Lemur	—— *albimanus*	2	
9. Black-fronted Lemur	—— *nigrifrons*	2	
10. Yellow-cheeked Lemur	—— *xanthomystax*	1	
11. Red-fronted Lemur	—— *rufifrons*	1	
12. Maholi Galago	*Galago maholi*	1	31
IV. Carnivora.			
1. Common Wolf	*Canis lupus*	11	
2. Indian Wolf	—— *pallipes*	2	
3. Common Jackal	—— *auratus*	2	
4. Black-backed Jackal	—— *mesomelas*	1	
5. Azara's Fox	—— *azaræ*	1	
6. Silver Fox	—— *argentatus*	6	
7. Dingo Dog	—— *dingo*	1	
8. Barred Ichneumon	*Herpestes fasciatus*	3	
9. Senegal Genet	*Genetta senegalensis*	1	
10. Tigrine Genet	—— *tigrina*	1	
11. Pale Genet	—— *pallida*	1	
12. Feline Genet	—— *felina*	1	
13. African Civet	*Viverra civetta*	2	
14. Lion	*Felis leo*	12	
15. Tiger	—— *tigris*	6	
16. Jaguar	—— *onca*	3	
17. Leopard	—— *leopardus*	8	
18. Puma	—— *concolor*	5	
19. Ocelot	—— *pardalis*	3	
20. Otter	*Lutra vulgaris*	1	
21. Badger	*Meles taxus*	3	
22. Polar Bear	*Thalassarctos maritimus*	3	
23. Brown Bear	*Ursus arctos*	5	
24. Black Bear	—— *americanus*	3	85
VI. Rodentia.			
1. American Flying-Squirrel	*Sciuropterus volucella*	2	
2. Prairie Marmot	*Arctomys ludovicianus*	1	
3. Canadian Beaver	*Castor canadensis*	1	
4. Barbary Mouse	*Mus barbarus*	4	
5. Mitchell's Hapalote	*Hapalotis mitchelli*	1	
6. Lemming	*Lemmus norvegicus*	1	
7. Indian Porcupine	*Hystrix leucura*	3	
8. Orange-quilled Porcupine	—— *malabarica*	1	
9. Chinchilla	*Chinchilla lanigera*	6	
10. Golden Agouti	*Dasyprocta aguti*	11	
11. Viscacha	*Lagostomus trichodactylus*	2	33
VIII. Artiodactyla.			
1. Guanaco	*Auchenia huanacus*	4	
2. Alpaca	—— *pacos*	10	
3. Lama	—— *glama*	7	
4. Giraffe	*Camelopardalis giraffa*	13	
5. Punjab Sheep	*Ovis cycloceros*	8	

		No. of instances of breeding in each species during the past twenty years.	No. of ditto in each order.
6. Moufflon	*Ovis musimon*	4	
7. Aoudad	—— *tragelaphus*	7	
8. Markhore	*Capra megaceros*	3	
9. Cretan Goat	—— *ægagrus*	3	
10. Ibex	—— *ibex*	6	
11. Nubian Ibex	—— *nubiana*	2	
12. Alpine Chamois	*Rupricapra tragus*	2	
13. Philantomba	*Cephalophus maxwelli*	1	
14. Duiker-bok	—— *mergens*	5	
15. Burchell's Duiker	—— *burchelli*	1	
16. Cuvier's Gazelle	*Gazella cuvieri*	1	
17. Dorcas Gazelle	—— *dorcas*	7	
18. Blessbok	*Damalis albifrons*	2	
19. Leucoryx	*Oryx leucoryx*	9	
20. Eland	*Oreas canna*	33	
21. Nylghaie	*Portax picta*	11	
22. Yak	*Bos grunniens*	4	
23. Zebu	—— *indicus*	13	
24. Bison	*Bison americanus*	2	
25. Wapiti Deer	*Cervus canadensis*	20	
26. Barbary Deer	—— *barbarus*	4	
27. Persian Deer	—— *maral*	12	
28. Formosan Deer	—— *taëvanus*	1	
29. Japanese Deer	—— *sika*	11	
30. Barasingha Deer	—— *duvaucelli*	3	
31. Sambur Deer	—— *aristotelis*	21	
32. Rusa Deer	—— *rusa*	6	
33. Molucca Deer	—— *moluccensis*	4	
34. Hog Deer	—— *porcinus*	20	
35. Axis Deer	—— *axis*	11	
36. Virginian Deer	—— *virginianus*	5	
37. Mexican Deer	—— *mexicanus*	3	
38. Pampas Deer	—— *campestris*	1	
39. Reindeer	*Rangifer tarandus*	3	
40. Collared Peccary	*Dicotyles tajaçu*	8	
41. Wild Swine	*Sus scrofa*	1	
42. Indian Swine	—— *indicus*	1	
43. Andaman Pig	—— *andamanensis*	2	
44. Pencilled River-Hog	*Potamochœrus penicillatus*	5	
			300
IX. Perissodactyla.			
1. Burchell's Zebra	*Equus burchelli*	3	
2. Cape Hyrax	*Hyrax capensis*	4	
			7
X. Edentata.			
1. Six-banded Armadillo	*Dasypus sexcinctus*	1	1
XII. Marsupiala.			
1. Virginian Opossum	*Didelphys virginiana*	2	
2. Vulpine Phalanger	*Phalangista vulpina*	9	
3. Short-headed Phalanger	*Belideus breviceps*	5	
4. Common Wombat	*Phascolomys wombat*	1	
5. Red Kangaroo	*Macropus rufus*	1	
6. Great Kangaroo	—— *giganteus*	2	
7. Bennett's Wallaby	*Halmaturus bennettii*	6	
8. Derbyan Wallaby	—— *derbianus*	1	
9. Yellow-footed Rock-Kangaroo	*Petrogale xanthopus*	4	
10. Gray's Jerboa Kangaroo	*Bettongia grayi*	6	
11. Common Jerboa Kangaroo	—— *penicillata*	5	
			42

Table II.

	No. of species in list.	No. of breeding species.	Proportion of breeding species to total number.
I. Quadrumana	75	12	1 in 6·2
II. Chiroptera	1		
III. Insectivora	1		
IV. Carnivora	74	24	1 in 3·0
V. Pinnipedia	3		
VI. Rodentia	52	11	1 in 4·7
VII. Proboscidea	2		
VIII. Artiodactyla	85	44	1 in 1·9
IX. Perissodactyla	9	2	1 in 4·5
X. Edentata	7	1	1 in 7·0
XI. Cetacea	1		
XII. Marsupialia	28	11	1 in 2·5
XIII. Monotremata	1		
	339	105	1 in 3·2

2. On Venezuelan Birds collected by Mr. A. Goering. By P. L. Sclater, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., and Osbert Salvin, F.L.S.—Part II.

Two small collections of birds recently received from our Corresponding Member Mr. Anton Goering (to whose labours in Venezuela we have already once called the Society's attention *) contain specimens of 99 species.

The subjoined Table gives the names of them according to Sclater's 'American Catalogue,' together with the exact localities whenever these are stated on Mr. Goering's labels:—

	Caracas.	Porto Cabello.	Tucacas.	Cumbre de Valencia.	S. Esteban.
Turdidæ.					
1. Turdus fumigatus	...	...	...	...	* *
2. Rhodinocichla rosea	...	...	...	...	* *
Paridæ.					
3. Polioptila buffoni	*				
Troglodytidæ.					
4. Campylorhynchus nuchalis	...	...	...	...	* *
5. Thryothorus leucotis	...	...	...	...	* *
6. —— rutilus	...	...	...	...	* *

* See P. Z. S. 1868, p. 165.

	Caracas.	Porto Cabello.	Tucacas.	Cumbre de Valencia.	S. Esteban.
Sylvicolidæ.					
7. Henicocichla noveboracensis	...	...	*		
8. Parula pitiayumi	...	...	...	...	*
9. Geothlypis æquinoctialis	*				
Hirundinidæ.					
10. Atticora cyanoleuca	...	*			
11. Progne tapera	...	*			
Vireonidæ.					
*12. Hylophilus hypoxanthus	...	...	...	...	*
13. Cyclorhis flavipectus	...	...	...	...	*
Cœrebidæ.					
14. Diglossopis cærulescens	*				
15. Dacnis plumbea	...	...	*		
16. Cœreba cyanea	...	...	...	...	*
Tanagridæ.					
17. Euphonia violacea	...	...	...	...	*
18. —— xanthogastra					
19. Calliste guttata	*				
20. —— desmaresti	...	...	...	...	*
21. —— cyanescens	*				
22. Tanagra melanoptera	...	...	...	...	*
23. Rhamphocœlus dimidiatus	...	...	...	...	*
24. Eucometes cristata	...	...	...	...	*
*25. Chlorospingus albitemporalis	...	...	...	*	
26. Buarremon brunneinuchus	*				
Fringillidæ.					
27. Guiraca cyanea	*				
28. Spermophila minuta	...	...	...	...	*
Corvidæ.					
29. Cyanocorax incas	...	...	...	...	*
Dendrocolaptidæ.					
*30. Sclerurus albigularis					
31. Synallaxis castanea	*				
32. Placellodomus frontalis					
33. Xenops genibarbis	...	...	...	...	*
*34. Sittasomus olivaceus	...	...	...	...	*
35. Dendrornis susurrans	...	...	...	...	*
36. Dendroplex picirostris	...	...	...	...	*
37. Picolaptes lafresnayi	*				
Formicariidæ.					
38. Thamnophilus doliatus					

	Caracas.	Porto Cabello.	Tucacas.	Cumbre de Valencia.	S. Esteban.
39. Thamnophilus atricapillus					
40. Dysithamnus semicinereus	...	...	...	...	*
41. Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus	...	...	...	...	*
42. Ramphocænus melanurus	...	...	...	...	*
43. Formicivora intermedia	...	...	...	...	*
*44. Grallaricula loricata	...	...	...	*	
TYRANNIDÆ.					
45. Sayornis cineracea	...	...	...	...	*
*46. Orchilus ecaudatus	...	...	...	...	*
47. Euscarthmus impiger	*				
48. —— squamicristatus	...	...	...	*	
49. Mionectes striaticollis	...	...	...	...	*
50. Elainea pagana	...	...	...	...	*
*51. —— elegans	...	...	...	...	*
*52. —— placens	...	...	...	...	*
53. Myiozetetes cayennensis	...	...	...	...	*
54. Empidochanes olivus	...	...	...	...	*
55. Contopus brachytarsus	...	...	...	...	*
*56. Myiarchus erythrocercus	*				
*57. —— venezuelensis	...	...	...	...	*
COTINGIDÆ.					
58. Pachyramphus, sp., ♀	...	...	...	...	*
*59. Heteropelma stenorhynchum	...	...	...	...	*
60. Pipra auricapilla	...	...	...	...	*
61. —— filicauda					
62. Chiroxiphia lanceolata					
63. Pipreola melanolæma	*				
64. —— formosa	*				
65. Chasmorhynchus variegatus	...	...	...	...	*
MOMOTIDÆ.					
66. Momotus swainsoni	...	...	...	...	*
ALCEDINIDÆ.					
67. Ceryle americana	...	...	...	...	*
BUCCONIDÆ.					
68. Bucco bicinctus	...	...	...	...	*
TROGONIDÆ.					
69. Pharomacrus fulgidus	*				
TROCHILIDÆ.					
70. Glaucis hirsuta					
71. Phaëthornis anthophilus					
72. Sternoclyta cyanopectus					
73. Lampornis mango					
74. Chalybura buffoni					
75. Florisuga mellivora					

	Caracas.	Porto Cabello.	Tucacas.	Cumbre de Valencia.	S. Esteban.
76. Lophornis reginæ					
77. Chætocercus rosæ	*				
78. Metallura tyrianthina	*				
79. Chrysolampis moschitus	*				
80. Lampropygia cœligena					
81. Erythronota feliciæ					
82. Chrysuronia œnone	*				
RAMPHASTIDÆ.					
83. Aulacorhamphus sulcatus	...	...	...	...	*
PICIDÆ.					
84. Picumnus squamulatus	...	...	...	...	*
85. Campephilus malherbii	...	...	...	...	*
86. Dryocopus lineatus					
87. Chloronerpes kirkii	...	...	...	...	*
PSITTACIDÆ.					
*88. Conurus æruginosus	...	...	...	...	*
ACCIPITRES.					
89. Urubitinga anthracina					
90. Spizaëtus ornatus	...	...	...	...	*
91. Herpetotheres cachinnans	...	...	...	...	*
*92. Accipiter, sp.?					
93. Falco deiroleucus	...	...	...	...	*
94. Cymindis cayennensis	...	...	...	...	*
STRIGES.					
95. Scops brasilianus					
96. Glaucidium phalænoïdes	...	...	...	...	*
COLUMBÆ.					
97. Chamæpelia rufipennis	...	...	...	...	*
LIMICOLÆ.					
98. Tringoïdes macularia	...	...	*		
RALLIDÆ.					
99. Aramides cayennensis	...	...	...	...	*

The following notes relate to the species marked with an asterisk.

12. HYLOPHILUS HYPOXANTHUS, Pelz. Orn. Bras. pp. 71, 136.

A single skin of an *Hylophilus* from San Esteban seems to agree very well with Pelzeln's description. Natterer obtained this species on the Rio Icanna and Rio Vaupé, which are on the confines of Venezuela. Sclater has a second specimen of this species, received

in a Trinidad collection, as alluded to in his Cat. Am. B. p. 44 (note). *H. insularis* of Leotaud (Ois. de Trin. p. 186) would appear to be referable to this species, and not to *H. insularis*, Sclater, although both of them probably occur in that island.

25. Chlorospingus albitemporalis (Lafr.); Sclater, Cat. A. B. p. 89.

The Venezuelan skin agrees with a Bolivian skin in Sclater's Collection, and with a specimen from Costa Rica collected by Arcé (*cf.* Lawrence, Ann. L. N. Y. ix. p. 101). It may be true, as Dr. Cabanis has remarked (J. f. O. 1866, p. 162), that Lafresnaye's description of *Tachyphonus albitempora* includes the Mexican *C. ophthalmicus* and the present species. But Lafresnaye gives the habitat of his bird as "Columbie;" so that it seems quite fair to restrict his term to the southern species, which is readily distinguishable from the northern form by its small postocular spot, and the brighter yellow of its breast and sides.

We have carefully compared a series of Mexican and Guatemalan specimens of *C. ophthalmicus*, but cannot find differences sufficiently constant to distinguish them. Even if this were the case, Bonaparte's term *olivaceus* (which was founded on a Central-American specimen*) would supersede Dr. Cabanis's proposed new name *postocularis*.

30. Sclerurus albigularis.

A single skin of a species most nearly resembling *S. umbretta*, but apparently distinguishable by its white throat, smaller size, greyish abdomen, and brighter rufous crissum. It is probably *S. albigularis* of Swainson's 'Birds of Brazil,' pl. 78, which figure we have never yet succeeded in meeting with. See our remarks, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 574.

34. Sittasomus olivaceus, Max. Beitr. iii. p. 1146.

After comparing a large number of specimens of this genus together from various parts of America, we have come to the conclusion that there are only two good species, besides *S. stictolæmus* of Pelzeln (which we are not acquainted with). These are:—1. *S. erythacus* (Licht.), from Southern Brazil; and, 2. *S. olivaceus* (Max.), which ranges from Southern Brazil into Southern Mexico. The latter, according to this view, includes *S. amazonus* of Amazonia, *S. griseus* of Tobago, and *S. sylvioides* of Southern Mexico and Central America. These two species are very easily distinguishable, *S. erythacus* being of an ochreous colour beneath, very different from *S. olivaceus*.

44. Grallaricula loricata, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 284.

Grallaria loricata, Scl. P. Z. S. 1857, p. 129.

A single skin of this species, originally described by Sclater from Levraud's specimens in the Paris Museum.

* Cf. Sclater, P. Z. S. 1856, p. 90.

46. Orchilus ecaudatus (Lafr. et d'Orb.).

Todirostrum ecaudatum, Lafr. et d'Orb. Syn. Av. p. 47; d'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 316, t. 33, figs. 1, 2.

Orchilus ecaudatus, Pelz. Orn. Bras. p. 102.

A single skin of this scarce species from San Esteban. We had not previously met with it.

51. Elainea elegans, Pelz. Orn. Bras. p. 179.

In Sclater's collection there are skins of this species from Bogotá, Cayenne, Pebas in Eastern Peru, and Panama. We have hitherto called it *caniceps*, but now find that it is Pelzeln's *E. elegans* (agreeing with a Nattererian specimen from Borba), which Pelzeln (*l. c.*) considers distinct from *E. caniceps* of Swainson, also collected by Natterer. It is quite certain, moreover, that the present bird does not agree satisfactorily with Swainson's figure (Orn. Dr. t. 49).

52. Elainea placens, Sclater.

The occurrence of this species as far south as Panama has been already recorded (P. Z. S. 1864, p. 359). Sclater has also recently received Bogotá skins of the same bird. This has led him to re-examine his *E. implacens* from Ecuador (P. Z. S. 1861, p. 408), which he is now convinced is not specifically separable. Pelzeln's *E. implacens*, Orn. Bras. p. 108, is probably the same species.

56. Myiarchus erythrocercus, sp. nov.

Suiriri pardo y roxo, Azara, Apunt. ii. p. 143. no. 195.

Tyrannus crinitus, Hartl. Ind. Az. p. 13; d'Orb. Voy. Ois. p. 306.

Tyrannus irritabilis, Bp. Consp. i. p. 189 (nec Vieill.).

"*Myiarchus ferox* ♂"! Burm. Syst. Ueb. ii. p. 471; Pelzeln, Orn. Bras. p. 116 (partim).

Myiarchus erythrocercus, Sclater, MS.

Similis *M. cooperi*, sed crassitie minore (fere sicut *M. ferocis*), tarsis brevioribus, et alis magis rotundatis distinguendus.

Taking Prof. Baird's division of the *Myiarchi* (Am. B. p. 177), this species, which we introduce under Sclater's MS. name, belongs to the same group as *M. crinitus*, *M. cooperi*, and *M. cinerascens*, in which the broad rufous edgings of the inner webs of the tail-feathers are continued nearly or quite to their termination. It is the *only* species with these broad rufous edgings yet recognized in South America, where it appears to be extensively diffused. Sclater's collection contains examples from Bahia and Tobago; and in the Museum of Copenhagen is one from Venezuela, which has been compared by Prof. Reinhardt with Sclater's skins, and found to be identical. If we are not mistaken in our synonymy, it is also found in Paraguay and Bolivia.

Bonaparte appears to have recognized this bird as *T. irritabilis*; but that name of Vieillot is a mere synonym of *T. crinitus*. Bur-

meister seems to have taken it for the male of *M. ferox*, in which view he is followed by Pelzeln.

Another skin in Sclater's collection from Dominica (*E. C. Taylor*) is probably also referable to this species, but presents some slight points of distinction.

57. Myiarchus venezuelensis, Lawr. Pr. Ac. Phil. 1865, p. 38.

In Sclater's collection are skins from Tobago and Bogotá, apparently referable to this species, which is (somewhat doubtfully perhaps) distinguishable from *M. ferox* and *M. swainsoni* by the narrow rufous edgings to the wing- and tail-feathers.

59. Heteropelma stenorhynchum, sp. nov.

Mr. Goering sends us two skins of a *Heteropelma*, which belongs to the group allied to *H. turdinum*. It is nearly as large as that species, and therefore exceeds in size Sclater's specimens of *H. wallacii* * and *H. amazonum*. Below it is pale on the throat, like *wallacii*, but shows on the belly very faint indications of transverse markings, which are not discernible in the latter. Above it is most like *H. amazonum*, but not quite so dark in colour. The bill is narrower, and more compressed than that of any of the allied species, whence we assign it a provisional name. But it must be allowed that all four of these species are very closely allied, and it would be desirable to institute further comparisons between them when more specimens of *H. wallacii* and *H. amazonum* come to hand.

Mr. Goering marks the iris of the bird as "greyish white."

88. Conurus æruginosus.

See our former remarks on this species, P. Z. S. 1867, p. 587. Mr. Goering's skin agrees with specimens of this Parrot living in the Society's Gardens.

92. Accipiter, sp.?

Mr. Goering's collection contains a single skin of an *Accipiter* belonging to the *erythrocnemis* group. It is very nearly adult, but the sex is not marked. This bird most nearly resembles the Central-American form *Accipiter chionogaster* (figured in Exot. Orn. t. xiv.), being totally without transverse markings below. But it differs from *A. chionogaster* in the deep rufous colour of the tibiæ (in which respect it is more like *A. erythrocnemis*), in the more plumbeous tinge of the upper surface, and in the light-coloured bands of the tail being narrower. We hope Mr. Goering will send us additional specimens of this species, which, for the present, we must leave undetermined.

* Scl. et Salv. P. Z. S. 1867, p. 579.

3. Contributions to the Ornithology of the Argentine Republic and adjacent Lands. By Dr. Herm. Burmeister, F.M.Z.S.—Part I.

In the second volume of my 'Voyage through the States of La Plata,' and in Cabanis's 'Journal of Ornithology' (vol. viii. p. 241), I have given synopses of all the birds observed by myself during my journey through this country. These synopses were founded principally on observations made in the middle, northern, and western parts of this country, as I had not been long enough in the eastern parts to speak of the ornithology of that side of the republic with good success. Now, resident during the past five years in Buenos Ayres, I have studied the ornithology of this district, and have observed some new species, and others not sufficiently known. These I beg leave to bring to the knowledge of the learned Society which has honoured me by naming me one of its foreign members.

1. Hypomorphnus urubitinga, nob., Syst. Ueb. ii. 43.

This remarkable bird I had already seen near Mendoza, but not sufficiently recognized, and therefore not included in my synopsis. Now I know that it is found all over the whole country, and comes also up to Buenos Ayres, where it is observed on the island in the mouth of the river Parana, near Las Conchas, from time to time; but it is always of rare occurrence.

2. Nisus magnirostris, Gm.; *l. c.* ii. 76.

Common in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres, and even on the towers of the churches in the city, where it is seen catching Pigeons.

3. Nisus gracilis, Temm.; *l. c.* p. 77.

This handsome bird was brought me two years ago by a French hunter, who had shot it in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres.

4. Cymindis boliviensis, sp. nov.

C. *fusco-nigra, remigibus rectricibusque subtus albo-fasciatis; cera pedibusque croceis: long.* 18″.

We have of this species one specimen in our museum, which was killed near Santa Cruz de la Sierra, in the woody plains of the interior of Bolivia. As I can find no description of this bird in the works fallen under my inspection, I describe it as a new species.

In size and figure entirely like the common Brazilian species *Cym. uncinata*. The bill not stronger, and of the same form, but rather longer; the upper mandible black, the under mandible whitish. The sides of the face, from the beak to the eyes, naked, with some black bristles in a row from the eye to the nostrils. Iris dark brown. The whole plumage blackish brown, but the bases of the feathers of the vertex, from the front to the occiput, white; the nuchal feathers

elongated, broad, rounded. First primary short, not longer than the secondaries; the second somewhat shorter than the fifth; the third somewhat longer than the same, and the fourth the longest of all; every one with four or five white bands on the inside, of which the exterior is somewhat greyish. Secondaries of nearly equal size, every one with five or six small whitish bands on the inside, which are only clear white in the middle of the plume. Tail two inches longer than the wings in position, black, with two large grey bands on the upperside, and the same white on the underside, and a similar margin at the end of the rectrices. Legs yellow, with black claws, the outer toe of the same length as the inner one; the tarsus covered in front with small hexagonal scales.

Whole length, from the tip of the beak to the end of the tail, 18 inches; beak 1 inch, wing 10 inches, tail 7 inches, tarsus $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch; middle claw without the nail 14 lines, the nail 8 lines.

5. Circus superciliosus, Temm.; Syst. Ueb. ii. 116.

Not rare near Buenos Ayres.

6. Coccygus cinereus, Vieill.

Coccygus cinereus, Vieill.; Azara, Apunt. ii. 368. no. 268; Burm. Syst. Uebers. ii. 268. Anm. 2.

This rare Cuckoo has been killed by my hunter sometimes in the vicinity of Palermo, near Buenos Ayres. It is well described by Azara, but the colours are not so clear as Azara says. The whole body is greyish, except the anal portion and the inside of the wings, which are yellowish, the iris red. As the tail is very short in relation to the size of the bird, and the eight inner primaries are equal in length, the bird must make a separate section of the genus *Coccygus*, or a genus of itself. My hunter has also found the nest with the eggs, which are of a uniform whitish green.

7. Dendrobates lignarius, nob.

Picus lignarius, Mol. Comp. Hist. Nat. Chil. i. 391; Burm. Syst. Uebers. ii. 225. Anm. 1.

This little Woodpecker is found sometimes near Buenos Ayres, in the willow bushes of the "Boca del Riachuelo" of Barracas. It seems to be more fond of the southern parts of the province.

8. Elainea albescens, nob.

Pachyrhamphus albescens, Gould, Zool. of the Beagle, iii. 50, pl. 14.

This bird has all the characters of an *Elainea*, and is very nearly allied to *E. modesta*, from which it is only different in its somewhat greater size, clearer colours on the underside, less green colour on the back, and the want of the white colour at the bases of the head-feathers. It is not rare in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres, where it makes its nest in the summer, going during the winter to more

northern districts. We have found its eggs, which are whitish, with grey spots round the middle and at the thicker end.

9. PACHYRHAMPHUS ALBINUCHA, sp. nov.

P. *supra fusco-cinereus, subtus albus; vertice nigro, mucha alba: long.* $4\frac{3}{4}''$.
Fem. mari similis.

Figure and size of *P. mitratus* (Syst. Uebers. ii. 454. 1), *P. cinereus* (Sclat. Cat. 241. 1470), but rather smaller, the beak somewhat slender, and the wings relatively shorter. Upper head black; in the male with a bluish metallic reflex; front and lores white, like the whole underside and a band on the hind neck, which is not so clear in the female as in the male. From this band to the tail is brownish grey; the wings and tail browner, as also the upper back, which is more of a lead-colour. The outer secondaries have whitish borders; and of the same colour also are the outer edges of the exterior tail-feathers. Beak and legs black; iris dark brown. Length $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches, beak 4 lines, wing 2 inches, tail 1 inch 7 lines, tarsus 6 lines.

The first exterior tail-feather rather shorter than the others, and narrow and somewhat pointed. The first primary two lines shorter than the second, which is nearly equal to the third.

This small bird lives in the sedge of the shores of the Rio de La Plata, near Buenos Ayres, and has a somewhat melancholy temperament, sitting quite still in the same place a long time. Both sexes are alike in colour; but the colour of the male is much clearer, and the white nuchal band broader and more distinct.

10. TÆNIOPTERA VARIEGATA.

Tænioptera variegata, Gould, Zool. of the Beagle, iii. 55, pl. 14.

This beautiful bird is rare in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres, and occurs only at the harvest time (April), when it arrives from the southern plains of Patagonia, to live on the warmer plains of the north during the winter. It walks much on the ground, and is very rarely seen on trees, feeding on grubs and earthworms. I had for a long time only two specimens of this bird in the museum, killed to the south of Buenos Ayres, near Barracas; but in the present year one of my hunters found a flock of nearly twenty individuals near the little town of Moron, to the north-west of Buenos Ayres. Having been informed of the rarity of the species, he returned to the spot, and, having found the flock again, killed the whole of them, so that I have now sixteen specimens before me. This was on the 2nd of April.

Examining this series of specimens, I find that the red colour of the underside, as figured by Gould, is of rare occurrence, and only present in very old males. The females and most of the males are grey on the breast up to the throat, with only a reddish tinge, the lower portion of the body beneath being clear reddish, with a greyish stripe on each feather.

11. ANABATES LOPHOTES.

Anabates lophotes, Bp. Consp. i. 210.
A. cristatus, D'Orb. Voy. Ois. 258.
A. unirufus, Burm. Reise d. d. La Plata-Staaten, ii. 466.

Before I had seen the true *Anabates unirufus*, D'Orb., from the interior of Bolivia, I had taken this bird of the Argentine Republic for that species; but now, having under my inspection two true *A. unirufus*, I see the difference. The *A. lophotes* is larger, not entirely cinnamon red-brown, but more greyish red-brown, and dark brown on the vertex, where the feathers are longer and narrower. Only the tail and the anal portion of the trunk are entirely red-brown.

This species lives in the interior near Cordova, S. Luis, La Riaja, and has never been observed near Buenos Ayres. D'Orbigny shot an individual in the province of Santa Fé; but this, without doubt, is a rare occurrence, as I never observed the bird near Paraná.

12. LIMNORNIS CURVIROSTRIS.

Limnornis curvirostris, Gould, Zool. of the Beagle, iii. 86, t. 25.

Not rare in the sedge of the shores of the Rio de La Plata, near Buenos Ayres.

13. SYNALLAXIS SPIXII.

Synallaxis spixii, Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1856, p. 98, 1859, p. 192; Cat. A. B. p. 151.
Parulus ruficeps, Spix.
Synallaxis albescens, nob. Syst. Uebers. iii. 39. 2.

This species is also found in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres; but I have never seen it in the interior of the eastern side of the country, near Paraná, where I found *Synallaxis ruficapilla* in abundance.

14. SYNALLAXIS SULPHURIFERA, nob.

S. *supra olivaceo-fusca, subtus albido-lutescens; superciliis gulaque albis, hac macula parva sulphurea: long.* 6″.

This species has the longer and rather curved beak of *S. striaticeps*, but the broad and long pointed tail-feathers of *S. spixii*. The whole upperside is obscure ochraceous, and over the eyes is a white line. The underside on the throat white, with a small sulphur-yellow spot in the middle; the breast and body beneath pale loamy yellow; the sides of the neck and cheeks striped with white. Wing-coverts red-brown, also the margin of the longer remiges; but the middle ones without these margins, forming a dark stripe over the wings. Tail-feathers ochraceous, the outer ones more of a red-brown; the tip of every one more or less mutilated, rather large, and the two middle elongato-acuminated. Beak and legs brown, the under mandible at the base whitish.

This bird is found near Buenos Ayres, in the sedge of the river-shores.

4. Note on *Xylospongia cookii*, a New Genus of Palmated Sponges in the collection of the British Museum. By Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., &c.

In the British Museum is a very extraordinary, lobed, woody, palmated body, with eight flattened, irregularly netted, strap-like lobes. It has been in the collection for many years, but has not been named; indeed grave doubts have been entertained if it were not the woody skeleton of some vegetable production.

Being without any habitat, it has been left unnoticed, in hopes that a second specimen might occur accompanied by some details of its history.

It was doubtless collected on the sea-coast, as one of its sides is more or less covered with the undervalves of some very young oysters and other attached marine shells.

Being desirous of knowing more of its structure, I submitted a small fragment of it to the examination of Mr. M. C. Cooke of the India Museum, who informs me there can be no doubt of its being a sponge belonging to my family *Halichondriadæ*, the substance of it being studded with abundance of smooth, slender, fusiform, slightly curved siliceous spicules. I have named the species after Mr. Cooke.

Xylospongia (Fam. Halichondriadæ).

Frond compressed, fan-shaped, divided above into strap-shaped flat lobes, rather wider at the ends. Root an expanded disk. Stem thick, woody, subcylindrical below, compressed above and expanded into a flat fan-like frond, which is divided above into eight or ten strap-like flat lobes, like the fingers on the hand, the lobes varying rather in width, the outer one on each side being the narrowest. The root and stem are solid, wood-like; the upper part of the broad, expanded, fan-like part of the stem more or less pierced with different-sized perforations, and the part divided into strap-like reticulate lobes, which are generally rather wider at the ends. The expanded part of the stem and the strap-like lobes are all formed of parallel cylindrical filaments, about as thick as twine, which in the upper part of the stem are united together by woody matter, leaving only a few perforations between them; but in the strap-like lobes the filaments are much more distinct, rather flexuous, inosculating where they meet their neighbouring subparallel filaments, united by the woody material, which is not quite so thick as the filaments. The surface is rather rugose, the minute rugosities of the stem and filaments being placed longitudinally and parallel to each other. Spicules of one kind, minute, slender, fusiform, often very slightly curved or arched.

Xylospongia cookei.

Hab. ——.